



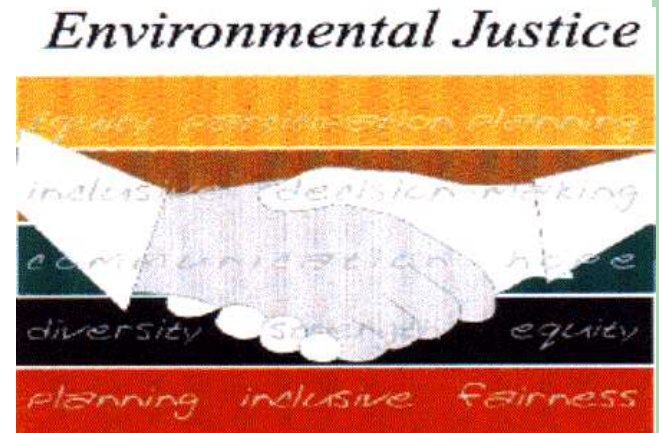
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Deneen Simpson, EJ Director
BWSC Advisory Meeting
March 23, 2017



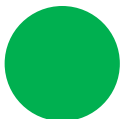
TODAY'S PRESENTATION

- 2017 EEA EJ Policy Changes
- 2017 EJ Policy changes that affect MassDEP
- Overview of Environmental Justice at MassDEP
- Public Participation suggestions in EJ communities
- EJ Next Steps at MassDEP



2017 DEFINITION OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE...

Environmental justice is based on the principle that **all people have a right to be protected from environmental hazards** and to live in and enjoy a clean and healthful environment regardless of race, color, national origin, income or English language proficiency. Environmental justice is the **equal protection and meaningful involvement of all people** and communities with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of energy, climate change, and environmental laws, regulations, and policies and **the equitable distribution of environmental benefits and burdens.**



2017 EEA EJ POLICY CHANGES

2017 EEA EJ Policy signed by Secretary Beaton on January 31, 2017

Changes:

- ❖ Direct energy and environmental agencies to consider impacts of climate change on EJ communities and work collaboratively with other agencies and Secretariats;
- ❖ Updated the criteria that determines an EJ population to 25% of households within a census block group at or below 65% of the statewide median income;
- ❖ Allows the use of a secondary vulnerable health screening process (DPH) for EJ populations as a site specific tool (takes into account childhood asthma, elevated blood levels, low birth rates, and elevated hospitalizations for myocardial infarction)



2017 EEA EJ POLICY CHANGES CONT'D

- ❖ Work with EEA Secretariat wide agencies to ensure compliance with A&F Bulletin #16 which requires Language Access Plans for each Department and determining the type of translation and interpreter services that will be available throughout the Secretariat;
- ❖ EEA to develop an annual EJ report detailing ways in which environmental justice criteria were used for awarding grants and prioritizing program funding for the prior fiscal year;
- ❖ EEA to convene an annual public meeting to report on the progress of the EJ Policy; and
- ❖ Opt-In Provision is being explored by the Secretary's office. The provision would create a public process allowing a group of individuals to submit a petition to be designated as an EJ population.

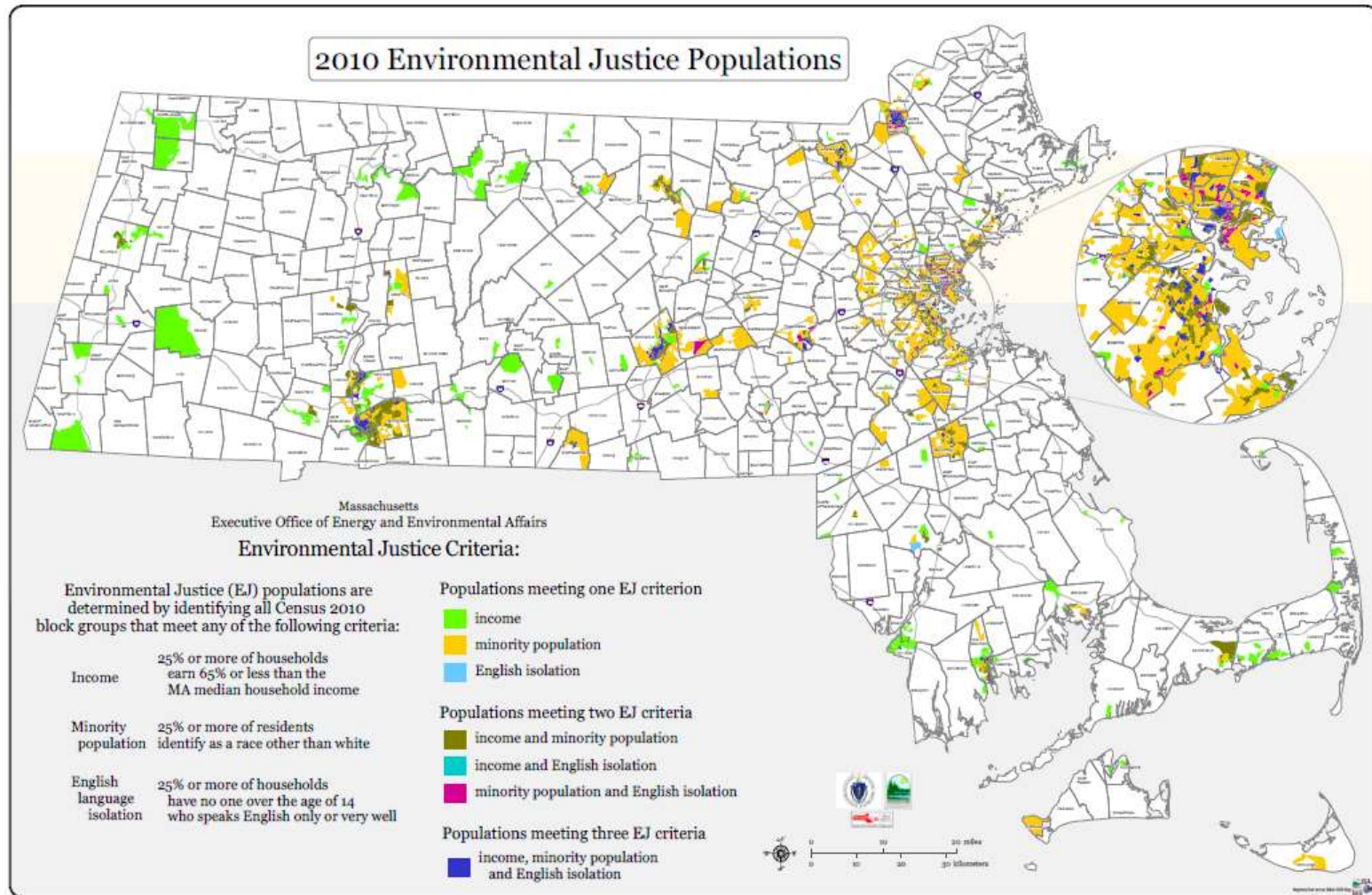


2017 EEA EJ POLICY UPDATES SPECIFIC TO MASSDEP

- Agency work plan (how MassDEP will promote EJ) part of EEA EJ Strategy
- Create a Public Involvement and Community Engagement Strategy for key activities
- Develop targeted compliance initiatives for neighborhoods where EJ populations reside and where local environmental public health conditions warrant increased attention (i.e., Commissioner's UCI)



2010 EJ POPULATIONS (2010 U.S. CENSUS)



<http://www.mass.gov/anf/docs/itd/services/massgis/ej-2010-state-with-inset.pdf>

MASSDEP EJ TEAM MEMBERS (BACKUPS)

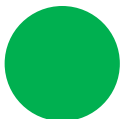
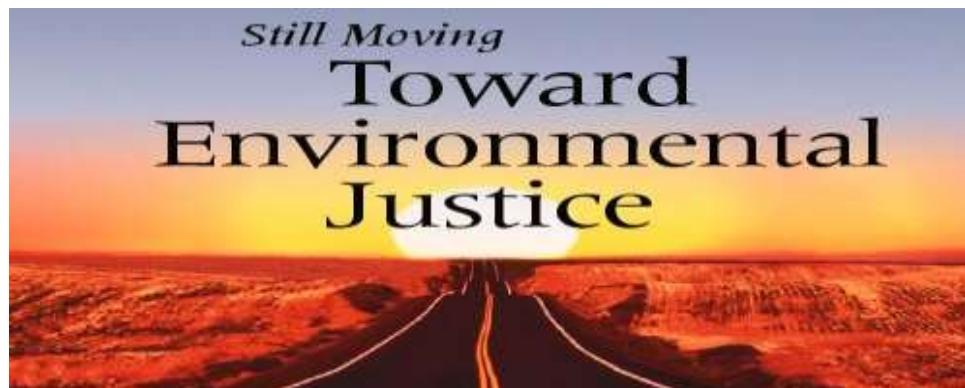
Deneen Simpson, EJ Director

- COMM - Kate Kerrigan
- COMM- Michelle Waters-Ekanem
- BPE - Ann Lowery
- BWR - Steve McCurdy
- BAW - Winnie Prendergast
- BWSC- Elizabeth Callahan
- CERO - Ning Chen (Joe Bellino)
- ESF - Tim Dame
- ORS - Sandra Baird
- NERO - Marc LaPlante (John D. Viola)
- SERO - Jen Viveiros (Angela Gallagher)
- WERO - Elizabeth Stinehart
- OADR - Bridget Munster
- OGC - Danah Tench & Rishi Reddi
- GIS - Brian Brodeur (Alice Doyle)



MASSDEP EJ TEAM MISSION

To advise MassDEP Senior Leadership on how best to ensure the equal protection and meaningful involvement of all people residing in the Commonwealth with respect to environmental protection and the equitable development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.



RECENT EJ WORK AT MASSDEP

- Urban Compliance Initiatives (Commissioner Priority)
 - Collaborating with communities to provide technical assistance
- RGGI/EJ Community Involvement Meetings (Dartmouth & Springfield) (November 2016)
 - Provide notice about meeting to community as early as possible
 - Central location & Convenient Time (6:00pm – 8:00pm)
 - Translation of Fact Sheets, as appropriate
- Responding to inquiries
 - Proposed projects in EJ communities
 - EJ population statistics
 - Public Participation requirements
 - Share Grant, Funding and Training Opportunities



MassDEP EJ Community Involvement & Public Participation Tools

- Enhanced Public Participation/Public Outreach
- Office of Municipal Partnerships and Governmental Affairs
- On-Line Community Involvement & Public Participation Sites
- Communication Document (aka Flag Document)
- Interpretation and Translation Services via Language Bank Volunteers (Diversity Office)



OFFICE OF MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIPS & GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Office of Municipal Partnerships & Governmental Affairs

For Municipal Assistance

Anthony Veilleux 617-292-5946



Municipal Partnerships Message From Commissioner Suuberg

[Learn more](#)



Who To Call:

Please select your town ▼

Find




Upcoming Events




Take Our Survey

BAW –AIR QUALITY COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT WEBPAGE

State Offices & Courts | State A-Z Topics | State Forms

No Active Alerts

Skip to main content | A A | English

The Official Website of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Energy and Environmental Affairs

Search... in Energy & Environment SEARCH

[Agriculture](#) | [Energy & Utilities](#) | [Environmental Protection](#) | [Fisheries, Wildlife & Habitats](#) | [Recreation & Conservation](#) | [Services & Assistance](#) | **[Agencies](#)**

[EEA Home](#) > [Agencies](#) > [MassDEP](#) > [Air Quality](#) > [Permit & Reporting Forms](#) > [Community Involvement & Public Participation: Air](#)


Community Involvement & Public Participation: Air Quality

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) seeks input from the public - including individuals, communities and groups - before it issues certain types of air quality permits or approvals. As part of this process, the agency requires distribution of a public notice either when it receives a permit application or before it makes a final decision, and accepts public comment for a specific period of time. In some cases, MassDEP also schedules a public hearing or meeting, which allows the agency to provide additional information about a proposed project and to receive feedback from the public. The information on this page is intended to help you understand how and when you can be part of the review and decision-making process for certain air quality permits or approvals. To learn about current opportunities for you to participate, see: [Public Hearings and Comments](#)

[Air Plan Approvals with Federal New Source Review](#)

[Operating Permits](#)

[Emission Control Plans](#)



[A to Z Quick Links](#)

[Air Quality Index](#)

BWSC – PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN



The Official Website of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Energy and Environmental Affairs

Search...

in Energy & Environment



SEARCH

Agriculture

Energy & Utilities

Environmental
Protection

Fisheries, Wildlife &
Habitats

Recreation &
Conservation

Services &
Assistance

Agencies

[EEA Home](#) > [Agencies](#) > [MassDEP](#) > [Cleanup of Sites & Spills](#) > [Sites & Locations](#) > [Public Involvement Activities at PIP Sites](#)

Public Involvement Activities at Public Involvement Plan (PIP) Sites

The Public Involvement Requirements of the MCP raised questions from the regulated community about who was responsible for conducting PIP activities. In effort to clarify who should perform these activities(e.g., the Department, the PRP/LSP, or a combination of both), and to facilitate the implementation of public involvement activities at Tier IA sites, the Department has developed the table below. The table lists the public involvement activities that are specified in the MCP or in the Public Involvement Guidance, policy # WSC 800-90 and identifies the party required or recommended to conduct the activity. The Department understands that there may be site specific conditions which would occasionally require a variation from these procedures.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES at PIP SITES	WHERE PIP ACTIVITY IS NOTED	PARTY REQUIRED or RECOMMENDED TO CONDUCT THE ACTIVITY

MassDEP Site Cleanup



[A to Z Quick Links](#)



[Site Cleanup Index](#)



COMMUNICATION DOCUMENT AKA FLAG DOCUMENT



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
One Winter Street, Boston MA 02108 • Phone: 617-292-5751

Communication For Non-English Speaking Parties - 310 CMR 1.03(5)(a)



1 English:

This document is important and should be translated immediately. If you need this document translated, please contact MassDEP's Diversity Director at the telephone numbers listed below.



2 Español (Spanish):

Este documento es importante y debe ser traducido inmediatamente. Si necesita este documento traducido, por favor póngase en contacto con el Director de Diversidad MassDEP a los números de teléfono que aparecen más abajo.



3 Português (Portuguese):

Este documento é importante e deve ser traduzida imediatamente. Se você precisa deste documento traduzido, por favor, entre em contato com Diretor de Diversidade da MassDEP para os números de telefone listados abaixo.



4(a) 中國（傳統） (Chinese Traditional):

本文件非常重要，應立即翻譯。如果您需要翻譯這份文件，請用下面列出的電話號碼與MassDEP的多樣性總監聯繫。

MA EJ ALLIANCE

- Alliance to Develop Power (ADP), Springfield
- **Alternatives for Community & Environment (ACE) ***
- **ARISE for Social Justice, Springfield**
- Cape Cod Environmental Justice Network
- Chelsea Creek Action Group, East Boston
- **Chelsea Green Space, Chelsea**
- Chinese Progressive Association
- Clean Water Action
- ECHO for Sustainable Development
- Greater Four Corners Action Coalition, Dorchester
- **Groundwork Lawrence**
- Groundwork Somerville
- **Hands Across the River, New Bedford**
- Neighbor to Neighbor
- Nuestra Raíces, Holyoke
- **Old Bedford Village, New Bedford**
- Regional Environmental Council, Worcester
- Worcester Roots/ Toxic Soil Busters

* *Lead*



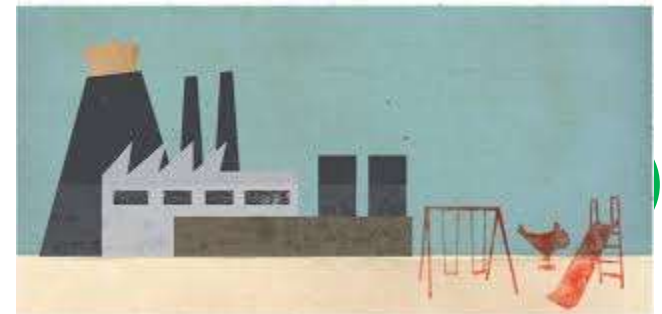
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN EJ COMMUNITIES

- Know Your Community
- Engage in early Public Involvement/ Open Houses/ Public Meetings:
 - Hold pre-application meetings with the community
 - Provide EJ fact sheets
 - Obtain a list of EJ Organization contact lists
- Consult with the Public/ Involve the Public
 - Build ongoing, two way relationships based on trust and authenticity;
- Social Media (traditional methods are not working);
- Collaborate with the public.



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN EJ COMMUNITIES CONT'D

- Translate public notices and other key documents;
- Offer interpreters at public meetings;
- Empower the public / Give them a voice / Listen;
- Identify what is negotiable and what isn't
 - Work with the community to mutually identify solutions
 - Have ongoing dialogue to develop understanding
- Communication is key...



NEXT STEPS AT MASSDEP:

- EEA Strategy Document (per EO 552) led by EEA;
- Translation of key program documents and obtain Translation/Interpreter Contract;
- Finalize Title VI Complaint Procedure (collaborating with EPA HQ & EPA R1);
- Continue to promote Environmental Justice by building relationships with communities, municipalities, stakeholders and advocacy groups; and
- EJ Training for Staff.



QUESTIONS?????



Contact Information:

Deneen M. Simpson

Massachusetts Department of Environmental
Protection

Director of Environmental Justice

617-292-5906

Deneen.Simpson@state.ma.us

MassDEP EJ webpage:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/service/justice/>